

CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL
EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Alesh

PERIODICAL
READING ROOM

Supplement to

THE WORLD TODAY

Published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International
Affairs, Chatham House, St James's Square, London, S.W.1

Annual subscription 25s. Per copy 1s.

In the United States, the Chronology may be obtained from the Royal
Institute of International Affairs, New York Publications Office,
542 Fifth Avenue, New York 19, N.Y. Annual subscription \$5.00;
per copy 25 cents.

Volume VIII No. 9

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ADEN PROTECTORATE. 21 Apr.—Lahej Sultanate. The British Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden, sent troops to occupy the town of Lahej after the Sultan, Fadhi Abdul Karim, had ignored a request to go to Aden to attend an inquiry into the death of two of his cousins, Emir Hassan Ali and Emir Ahmed Mehdi, and had fled across the border into the Yemen.

22 Apr.—Yemeni statement (*see Great Britain*).

ALGERIA. 29 Apr.—Anti-French riots broke out causing injuries to sixty persons. Twenty Arab nationalists were arrested.

AUSTRALIA. 29 Apr.—Pacific Security Pact. The treaty came into effect, and instruments of ratification were lodged at Parliament House by Mr Casey, Minister for External Affairs, Mr Byrd, Counsellor at the U.S. Embassy, and by the New Zealand High Commissioner.

30 Apr.—The Prime Minister issued a report on the achievements of his Government since the general election a year earlier. In it he declared that as a result of the institution of a secret ballot under court direction and the consequent elimination of trade union ballot 'malpractices', the Communist leaders had been rejected by the rank and file and there had been an outstanding record of industrial peace. In regard to defence, he said that the three services had been considerably increased and the defence appropriations of £A187.7 m. would be spent in the current year. Estimates of £A30 m. had been approved for the long-range establishment in central Australia, and tests of guided missiles and other defence devices were proceeding apace. The Commonwealth Government was providing £A125 m. in addition to the loan total for States' works programmes. Coal was being produced faster than the railways could handle it, and output in the first three months of 1952 was a million tons higher than in the corresponding period of 1951. Unemployment had touched the record low figure of 0.6 per cent of the working population and the present figure was not much higher.

Great Britain: Sugar. A British grant of £A561,000 to the Australian sugar industry was announced.

Dollar Shortage. Mr Menzies announced that the International Monetary Fund had agreed to provide Australia with temporary dollar finance amounting to \$30 m. in the period up to 30 September.

AUSTRIA. 19 Apr.—The acting U.S. High Commissioner told the press that he had ordered the U.S. Military Commander in Vienna to ban a Communist meeting in the U.S. sector which was to have been addressed by Dr Brandweiner, an Austrian recently returned from Korea, on the alleged U.S. use of bacteriological warfare there.

The ban led to clashes between the police and about 2,000 Communists.

20 Apr.—Herr Graf, Secretary for the Interior, criticized the U.S. authorities for banning the meeting and said matters of internal policy should be left to the Austrian security authorities.

BURMA. 27 Apr.—Kuomintang Forces. Reports reaching Rangoon said that since 7 April when Burmese troops had begun to move in to Kengtung from Taunggyi, the capital of the Shan State Government, Kuomintang advanced units at Mongyang and Mongma had fallen back towards Mongshat, more than fifty miles south of Kengtung, taking care to avoid both State police and Burmese regular units. Estimates placed the total of Kuomintang troops inside Kengtung State at not more than 10,000.

CENTRAL AFRICA. 18 Apr.—Rhodesia. The Budget. The Finance Minister in presenting the Budget said that economic conditions compelled the deferment of some of the development plans, and immigrants would be restricted to 900 a month. He attributed the deficit of £654,434 at 31 March almost wholly to the drought and outlined a policy aimed at reducing imports and increasing production. On the basis of existing taxation he estimated in 1952 a short fall of over £3·5 m., and to make good the deficit he announced new taxes which included an increase of 10s. on income tax to 8s., with certain reliefs; the reimposition of certain Customs duties; the imposition of purchase tax on many goods; a personal tax of £10 a year on all European males between eighteen and sixty and of £5 on all European single females between twenty-one and fifty-five with a similar tax at half rate for coloured people (not Africans); an increase in supertax; and increased postal charges. He announced that the whole of the country's gold output would be sold for dollars on the free market from 1 May.

CEYLON. 30 Apr.—Indian Note *re* statement by Home Minister on Indian community (*see India*).

CHINA. 21 Apr.—British protest *re* detention of British and other nationals (*see Great Britain*).

23 Apr.—A report reaching Hong Kong stated that according to the *Liberation Daily News* of Shanghai all the assets and staff of the British-American Tobacco Company were being transferred to a Chinese firm.

CONFERENCE ON CENTRAL AFRICAN FEDERATION.

22 Apr.—The non-official delegations from the Nyasaland African Congress and the Northern Rhodesian African Congress reaffirmed to the press their opposition to 'federation, partnership, or closer union'. Dr Banda, London representative of the Nyasaland Congress, said they wanted not federation but political and economic reforms, and that they looked forward to the time when they would have their own Government. They rejected the view of the European settlers and their supporters in Britain that Africans were politically immature and that therefore the Imperial Government and the Governments of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland should decide on federation for them.

23 Apr.—The conference was opened in London by Lord Salisbury, Secretary for Commonwealth Relations, who with Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, led the United Kingdom delegation. The Southern

Conference on Central African Federation (continued)

Rhodesian delegation included Sir Godfrey Huggins, the Prime Minister, and other Ministers and also members of the Opposition parties. The Governors of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland led the delegations from those territories. Only two Africans, members of the Southern Rhodesian delegation, were present. Lord Salisbury explained that the purpose of the conference was not to reach any final decisions but to work out a draft scheme for consideration. He expressed regret at the absence of Africans from Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The official African delegations from Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia, drawn from the Legislative Councils, the Northern Rhodesian African Representative Council, and the Nyasaland African Protectorate Council, explained to the press that they had refused to take part in the conference because they had rejected federation in principle and were therefore not prepared to discuss modifications of the draft prepared in London in 1951. They said they had come to London 'as deputations sent by our people to reaffirm to Her Majesty's Government our unanimous opposition to federation'.

24 Apr.—The contents were made known of a message dated 20 April which Sir Godfrey Huggins had received from a joint meeting in Bulawayo of 17 African organizations. It declared that, while regretting the appointment of the two African representatives, Mr Nkomo and Mr Savanhu, without consulting the African people of Southern Rhodesia, the meeting considered both delegates capable of adequately representing both rural and urban African views which were totally opposed to any form of federation or amalgamation under existing conditions.

In his reply Sir Godfrey Huggins said that he had assured the two African delegates that they were in no way committed by their attendance at the conference either to support or even to agree to anything which might emerge, and they were at liberty to express their views freely both at the conference and on their return to Southern Rhodesia. He expressed confidence that Africans would appreciate the advantage of having two Africans of their calibre present at the conference.

29 Apr.—Statement by Mr Lyttelton, and *Times* letter setting out African objections to federation (*see Great Britain*).

CYPRUS. 25 Apr.—At a meeting in Nicosia Cathedral of 600 delegates of nationalist organizations, the Archbishop suggested that in the struggle for union with Greece, Cypriots 'if need be' would refuse to pay taxes and would resort to civil disobedience, and that they would not sit idly by if Greece failed to raise the question of Cyprus in the United Nations. A resolution was passed denouncing the British administration as a 'slave regime' and insisting on union with Greece.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 19 Apr.—Four men were sentenced to death and seven persons, including two women, received sentences ranging from nine years' to life imprisonment for forging ration cards and black market offences. All had their property confiscated.

27 Apr.—Of eight persons on trial for treason and conspiracy who were accused of working for the 'green international' and 'European Federation', one was sentenced to death, six to life imprisonment, and the eighth, who was accused of working for the Vatican, to twenty-five years' imprisonment.

30 Apr.—**Mr Oatis.** The U.S. Ambassador was allowed to visit Mr Oatis, the imprisoned American journalist sentenced for espionage, for the first time since his arrest on 23 April 1951. He reported him to be in good health. A Czech police official and two interpreters were present at the interview.

EGYPT. 17 Apr.—**Trade.** The Finance Minister announced the abolition of licences and quotas for a wide range of exports.

19 Apr.—**General Election.** The Prime Minister announced that the postponed elections would take place before the end of the year.

20 Apr.—The Prime Minister ordered the release of Abdul Fattah Hassan Pasha, one of the two ex-Wafd Ministers recently placed under house arrest.

The King signed a decree giving the Government full powers to purge the administration of corruption. Investigations would be made by special committees set up by the Ministry of Justice with the right of access to all ministries' documents and books.

21 Apr.—London talks on Anglo-Egyptian negotiations (*see Great Britain*).

23 Apr.—**Great Britain.** Gen. Festing took over the command of British troops in Egypt from Gen. Erskine.

24 Apr.—**Israel.** Egyptian-Israeli incident off Gaza (*see Israel*).

Spain. In the course of a tour of Middle East countries, a Spanish mission under the Foreign Minister, Senor Artajo, arrived in Cairo.

26 Apr.—**Spain.** A cultural treaty between Spain and Egypt was signed in Cairo by the two Foreign Ministers, Senor Artajo and Hasuna Pasha.

30 Apr.—**Wafd.** A demonstration by about 400 Wafd youths in favour of Hilaly Pasha, the Prime Minister, took place outside the Presidency while the Cabinet was meeting.

FORMOSA. 28 Apr.—**Japan.** A separate peace treaty between Japan and Nationalist China was signed in Taipeh. Under it Japan renounced any title to Formosa and the Pescadores and her former assets in China; Japanese property and claims on Formosa would be disposed of by special arrangements between the two parties.

FRANCE. 19 Apr.—**Indo-China.** M. Letourneau, Minister for the Associated States, left for Saigon to take up his appointment as High Commissioner in Indo-China. Before leaving he gave a pledge that France would not abandon the struggle in Indo-China.

20 Apr.—Speaking at the opening of the Lyons Fair, M. Pinay, Prime Minister, declared that the first duty of the Government was to defend the currency and that this demanded order in the State finances

France (*continued*)

and a fair and strict discipline in the calculation of price. He said there were two types of profit margins which were no longer justified and must be suppressed: one was the inheritance from a period of penury when goods were sold dearly because there were few of them; the other was a kind of insurance premium which the seller granted himself as a guarantee against the depreciation of the currency. He rejected depreciation and said that employers and leaders had a responsibility to meet the aspirations of the masses by creating 'a sound economy based on general commercial and industrial activity' calling for high consumption based on low prices. He emphasized that wages themselves as well as the value of wages must be safeguarded, and in a final appeal for support declared that 'the triple defence of the currency, of work, and of exports is in the end a reaffirmation of a loyal liberalism to which I am deeply attached'.

23 Apr.—The Saar. The Government disclosed the gist of a letter from M. Schuman, Foreign Secretary, to Dr Adenauer, Federal German Chancellor, in which the French view had been expressed that the creation of a three-Power commission to prepare the election to the Saar *Landtag* was subordinate to negotiations for a final settlement and that these awaited the submission of German proposals since the existing status of the Saar was from the French point of view satisfactory.

Bonn debate on the Saar (*see Germany*).

Tunisia. The French press published a letter written in January 1949 by the Tunisian Neo-Destour leader, Habib Bourguiba, to the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem in which he declared that the Tunisian people would be ready to make the greatest sacrifices for an Axis victory, being convinced that it would be in the interests of Tunisian independence.

26 Apr.—Finance. The Government approved decrees reducing Government expenditure by 110,062 m. francs and blocking reconstruction credits amounting to 95,027 m. francs. It also adopted a decree reducing the indirect tax on pork by 44 francs a kilo from 30 April.

29 Apr.—Soviet attack on French aircraft over Germany (*see Germany*).

30 Apr.—M. Schuman informed the Council that an immediate protest in regard to the Soviet attack on the French aircraft in Germany had been made to the four-Power Commission in Berlin and to the Soviet Embassy in Paris.

FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA. 18 Apr.—It was learned that during the local elections at Logone in the Chad territory a clash occurred between demonstrators and the police in which fourteen persons were killed and eighteen injured. The police had also been forced to open fire at Bebaïem where several arrests were made.

GERMANY. 17 Apr.—East Germany. The Government issued an appeal to the German people to realize that the 'hour of decision' in

regard to German unity had come. It said that in a few weeks it might be too late for free elections: all German patriots must struggle 'for life and freedom' and look to a meeting soon between the four great Powers.

At a meeting of the Cabinet, Herr Ulbricht, deputy Premier, declared that the western Powers were seeking to keep Germany divided and the Germans must act as one man. The time had come for the trade unions in west Germany to use 'their strongest weapon, the mass strike'.

West Germany. The Saar. Replying to criticisms of the seizure in the French zone of an issue of the *Saar Zeitung* (see 12 April), the French High Commissioner of the Rhineland-Palatinate said that the paper was not a normal paper but a partisan publication which delivered slanderous and often untruthful attacks against leading men in the Saar, of which the main weight was concentrated on M. Grandval because he was the official representative of France. Only one issue had been confiscated and the paper had not been banned.

East-West Trade. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Federal Parliament declared in a statement that a normal flow of trade between the east and west through Germany could help to relieve international tension whereas the 'western embargo policy' had merely increased tension and had not prevented the Soviet bloc from receiving strategic goods.

Berlin. Moscow Economic Conference. It was announced in east Berlin that the Soviet zone had concluded valuable trade agreements with west European countries at the recent Moscow economic conference (see pp. 231-2). According to east German spokesmen an exchange of goods to the value of £2 m. had been arranged with Britain and there had been agreements 'to the value of several million dollars each' with France and the Netherlands.

19 Apr.—West German-Italian trade agreement (see Italy).

20 Apr.—East Germany. The Socialist Unity Party issued 'a call to the nation' for urgent and disruptive action to prevent west Germany from signing the proposed treaties with the west. West Germans were called on to resort to strikes, demonstrations, and disturbances, and to cast out the Bonn Government, while east Germans were told to be wide awake against 'enemy measures' and to protect 'democratic order'.

22 Apr.—West Germany: Great Britain. The text was published of a letter from the British High Commissioner to Dr Adenauer, Federal Chancellor, on the question of sixteen floating docks whose ownership had been questioned. The letter declared them to be British property and recalled that an agreement had been reached in November between British representatives and the Verband Deutscher Schiffswerften for their sale for £1.5 m. The letter pointed out that the docks had made a major contribution to German economic recovery and that no rent had been charged for them. It said that, provided the agreement to purchase was signed without delay, His Majesty's Government did not intend to charge rent, but if the docks were not bought by German interests disposal of them elsewhere would have to be considered.

23 Apr.—The Saar. A debate took place in the *Bundestag* on a Social Democratic motion calling on the Chamber to declare that the Saar was

Germany (continued)

German territory under international law; that its separation had been carried through without legal title and in violation of democratic principles and the right to self-determination; and that no settlement should be agreed to which contradicted these principles.

During the debate the main opposition criticisms levelled against the Chancellor were that he had failed to uphold the declared policy of the *Bundestag* and had foreshadowed a settlement 'in the European spirit'. Dr Adenauer announced in his reply that to his deep regret 'for the time being German-French negotiations, on the basis hitherto obtaining, no longer offer the prospect of success' and that the settlement of the Saar must be deferred for the time being. He added that the Federal Government must repeat its demand that the Saar people should be allowed complete political freedom and said that the Government would continue to try and induce the French Government to observe the agreement arrived at in Paris that the matter should be examined on the spot. He said the three pre-requisites for agreement were: (1) recognition of the continued validity of the acknowledged fact that no international status for the Saar existed; (2) recognition that the present order in the Saar was not definitive and that a final settlement could only be arrived at in a peace treaty or similar instrument; (3) immediate elections in the Saar for a *Landtag*, the members of which would not be bound in advance to take a certain line on the territory. Dr Adenauer referred to a letter he had received from the French Foreign Minister, M. Schuman, in reply to a letter he had sent suggesting the three German members of the proposed commission of inquiry in the Saar and asking that the French Government should appoint three members. In his reply M. Schuman had said that the inquiry was bound up with the opening of discussions on a settlement of the whole subject (see also under *France*).

Dr Ollenhauer, deputy leader of the Social Democratic Party, demanded that the Government should continue to uphold that the Saar was a part of Germany and that no further step should be taken towards integration with the west European defence system so long as the Saar question remained unsettled.

The Opposition resolution was defeated by 169 to 142 with 8 abstentions, and instead the *Bundestag* passed by 191 votes to 135 a Government resolution which declared that under international law the Saar was a part of Germany; that present conditions there had no basis in law and had been set up contrary to democratic principles and the right of self-determination; that German territory could not be disposed of without German consent; and that the *Bundestag* pledged itself to seek European unity to the elimination of national frontiers.

24 Apr.—West Germany: German Unity. Dr Adenauer declared in a broadcast interview that he was in favour of a four-Power conference on Germany but the ground should be well prepared in advance by an exchange of Notes. He did not believe that either neutralization or the creation of a small national army was possible in existing circumstances, but four-Power agreement could still produce a unified Germany, a United States of Europe, and world peace. That was why it

should be sought. While promising to exert every effort to reunite Germany he said that the Government's European policy must be pursued.

Berlin. Several thousand Communists took part in organized demonstrations in the western sectors against the West German Government. In clashes with the police which ensued, four west German policemen were injured and fourteen Communists were arrested.

25 Apr.—West Germany: All German Elections. The text was published of a letter from Dr Schumacher, leader of the Social Democrats, to Dr Adenauer, in which the Opposition leader urged that the Western Powers should be informed that both Government and Opposition were in favour of a four-Power conference on German reunion and German elections. He declared that the elections should take place under international supervision and suggested that this might be done by the United Nations, a neutral commission, or by the four Powers with safeguards. In a second letter Dr Schumacher said that the aims of the negotiations should not be laid down in advance.

Herr Kaiser, west German Minister for all-German Affairs, said in Berlin that there could be no question of negotiations between the Bonn and east German Governments on German reunion as the latter were worthless tools of the Russians.

South-West German State. A coalition of Social Democrats, Free Democrats, and members of the Refugee Party (B.H.E.) in the Constituent Assembly of the South-West State elected Dr Maier as Chief Minister. As a result of the Christian Democratic Party, which with fifty members was the largest in the Assembly, being forced into Opposition, Dr Adenauer's Government lost their majority in the *Bundesrat*, having 18 votes against the Opposition's 20.

26 Apr.—Occupation Costs. Dr Schäffer, Federal Finance Minister, declared at Düsseldorf that the western Powers must bear the full cost of maintaining their own forces in Germany as Germany needed every penny she could raise for defence for her own troops which would be part of the European Army. She could not afford to spend money on occupying armies which 'would live in luxury'.

27 Apr.—Socialist Parties' Meeting. Social Democratic representatives held a meeting with delegates of the Socialist parties of Britain and France. There was agreement on the need to take the latest Soviet Note on Germany seriously.

28 Apr.—Herr Ollenhauer urged at a press conference that priority should be given to the Soviet proposals for German reunion and a German peace treaty and that the new contractual arrangements with the Western Powers and the question of a German defence contribution should be postponed until a coherent effort had been made to reach a four-Power agreement. He declared that the Soviet proposals should be tested for their sincerity by seeing if there were genuine possibilities for free elections, and he maintained that the signing of the contractual arrangements and integration in the western defence system would make German reunion more difficult and might prevent it altogether.

29 Apr.—East Germany. The Communist press in Berlin reported

Germany (continued)

that the Soviet Government had decided to hand back to the German State some sixty-six factories and mines out of the hundred seized by the Russians in 1945.

Soviet Attack on French Aircraft. A French passenger airline flying from Frankfurt to Berlin was attacked with cannon and machine-gun fire by two Soviet jet fighters. Two passengers were severely injured and considerable damage caused to the machine, but it was able to land at Tempelhof airport bearing evidence of the encounter.

The three western Commandants of Berlin delivered to Gen. Chuikov head of the Soviet Control Commission, strong protests in which they pointed out that the aircraft was, in conformity with the quadripartite agreement in force, flying within the air corridor. They demanded an immediate investigation by the Soviet authorities, punishment for those responsible, and due reparation for material damage.

The Soviet authorities said in a Note to the French authorities that the aircraft had left the air corridor, that it had ignored orders to land given by Russian fighters, and that a Soviet pilot had fired warning shots to make it land.

30 Apr.—A second protest was addressed to Gen. Chuikov by the three western Commandants in Berlin. In their own name and in the name of the western High Commissioners it emphatically rejected the Russian counter-claim that the aircraft had strayed from the air corridor and stated that all the evidence confirmed the facts of the 'outrageous attack'. It declared that in any case, to fire on an unarmed aircraft in time of peace, in any circumstances, was entirely inadmissible and contrary to all standards of civilized behaviour. The three Commandants therefore repeated their 'vehement protest against this unwarrantable and brutal attack' and their request for an immediate investigation, the punishment of those responsible, and payment of due reparation. They awaited an early reply.

French protest *re* attack (*see France*).

British Labour Party statement on Germany (*see Great Britain*).

GREAT BRITAIN. 17 Apr.—N.A.T.O. It was announced that Sir Frederick Hoyer-Millar had been appointed permanent U.K. representative on the North Atlantic Council.

18 Apr.—**Moscow Economic Conference.** Mr Hopkinson, Secretary for Overseas Trade, referred in a speech at Exeter to the offers to import British textiles and other products which had been received from Communist countries by private persons attending the Moscow Economic Conference. He said that the Government, who had not been invited to send representatives to the conference, believed its purpose was to promote the Soviet 'peace campaign' by enabling the U.S.S.R. to pose as the champion of free commercial intercourse between east and west. It might also have had the purpose of persuading public opinion in the west to put pressure on western Governments to remove restrictions on strategic materials. He said that there was already a large exchange of trade between Britain and east European

countries and that the British Government and exporters had for a considerable time been pressing official Soviet representatives to buy more British consumer goods. There was therefore no need for the negotiations in Moscow, and, in contradiction to the proposals brought back by delegates, British merchants who had been established for generations in China were being increasingly squeezed out under the policy of the Peking regime.

U.S. Tariffs. The Board of Trade published a memorandum, presented to the U.S. State Department on 9 April, concerning the increased number of applications for protection under the Trade Agreements Amendments Act 1951 which the Tariff Commission had received from U.S. manufacturers in recent months. After mentioning the desirability of ending U.K. dependence on U.S. aid and pointing out that the ability of Great Britain to be an effective ally, both militarily and economically, of the United States was threatened by the difficulty in balancing her external, and particularly her dollar, account, the memorandum expressed concern at the mounting evidence that success in selling British goods in the U.S. market was being countered by applications from U.S. industry for further protection and the fear that some of the applications might be granted. The memorandum said the same considerations applied also to other European countries and referred to the Italian memorandum of January 1952 (*see p. 241*). While conceding that withdrawal of tariff concessions under an 'escape clause' procedure might very occasionally be justified, as recognized in Article XIX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the memorandum stated finally that if 'the world's major creditor country were to set an example of withdrawing tariff concessions whenever they revealed their effectiveness through more vigorous competition', the Governments of debtor countries would be forced to take similar action under Article XIX, and co-operation with the United States in commercial and other policies would be impaired.

21 Apr.—Sir Stafford Cripps, the prominent Socialist ex-Minister, died in Zurich after a long illness.

China. Mr Eden announced in the Commons that, as previous representations seemed to have brought no improvement, the British Chargé d'Affaires had been instructed to address a Note of protest to the Peking Government in regard to all cases (believed to number fifty-five) of U.K., Australian, Canadian, and U.S. citizens reported to be under detention in China. The Note would request information as to the charges, sentences, present whereabouts, and welfare of the prisoners.

Persia. The Foreign Office published the text of a Note received from the Persian Government protesting against the visit of Sir Eric Beckett, Foreign Office legal adviser, to Bahrein (an independent Sheikdom having a special treaty relationship with Britain). The Note, which was the third since the end of the war claiming Persian sovereignty over Bahrein, declared it to be 'an integral part of Iran'.

The Foreign Office stated that Sir Eric Beckett was making a short tour of Persian Gulf States, including Kuwait, Bahrein, and the

Great Britain (continued)

Trucial Coast States, to study and report on the judicial systems there.

Egypt and the Sudan. Mr Eden, Foreign Secretary, began talks on the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations with Sir Ralph Stevenson, British Ambassador to Egypt, and Sir Robert Howe, Governor-General of the Sudan, who had arrived in London.

22 Apr.—Yemen. The Yemeni Legation published a statement expressing 'complete surprise and astonishment' at the occupation of the Sultanate of Lahej by British troops (*see Aden Protectorate*) at a time when the Yemeni Legation was in touch with the Foreign Office regarding recent developments in the Sultanate. It stated that developments would be watched with close concern and expressed the view that any measures taken by the British authorities in Aden should conform to the letter and spirit of existing treaties.

Economic Survey for 1952. The Survey (Cmd. 8509), containing a review of economic developments in 1951 and an analysis of the outlook for 1952, was published. It stated that only by reducing imports and expanding exports could the Government avoid disastrous cuts in imports later which would cause widespread want and unemployment. It calculated that in 1952-3 national output would be increased by about £250 m. and imports reduced by more than £300 m. compared with 1951; that defence would require over £200 m. more resources but that £50 m. less resources would be required by the Government for other civil purposes; and it estimated that a reduction of more than £250 m. in total investment would be necessary.

Cotton. Mr Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, announced in the Commons the Government's acceptance of the unanimous recommendations contained in the report (published the same day, Cmd. 8510) of the Cotton Imports Committee, the main feature of which was the proposal that each year spinners should be given the option of buying on their own account while the Raw Cotton Commission should continue to supply those who wished to buy from it.

Moscow Economic Conference. Mr Hopkinson stated in a parliamentary written reply that the Government was not invited to send representatives to the Moscow Conference and that members of the British delegation had no authority to negotiate any formal trade agreement. The Government had received no proposals from the Soviet or Chinese Government following the conference.

23 Apr.—Defence. Speaking on the Government's defence policy in the House of Lords, Lord Alexander, Defence Minister, quoted figures to show the size of the national defence effort and reported on the progress of recruitment in the three services. He said it was clear that the cost of the arms programme would be more than the original estimate and that it would take longer to achieve.

Conference on Central African Federation. q.v.

24 Apr.—Egypt. Amr Pasha, the Egyptian Ambassador, joined for the first time in the London talks on Anglo-Egyptian relations at a dinner at his house attended by Mr Eden, Sir Robert Howe, and Sir Ralph Stevenson.

Withdrawal of British Military Mission from Greece (*see Greece*).

25 Apr.—Persian Oil Dispute. Publication of the British memorial to the International Court, the Persian objections to the Court's competence, and the British reply (*see United Nations, International Court of Justice*).

Speaking at Blackburn, Mr Eden, Foreign Secretary, said the growing strength of the West gave grounds for 'sober confidence'; it presented no threat to eastern Europe or Soviet Europe and might bring about a change of policy in the East. He said the Government's three aims were peace, prosperity, and a property-owning democracy.

28 Apr.—Home Guard. Enrolment began for a new Home Guard.

Lahej. Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, stated in a written parliamentary reply that in spite of efforts on the part of the Governor of Aden to help the Sultan of Lahej, reports of 'progressive deterioration' in the State's affairs had continued to reach Aden, culminating in a report on 14 April that the Sultan had authorized the killing without trial of two amirs. In reply to an inquiry, the Sultan admitted that the two amirs, who were distant cousins of his, had been killed by his orders and he claimed to have proof of their conspiracy against his life. There had also been other incidents which had aroused anxiety.

In the opinion of the Governors and others the Sultan's recent conduct gave ground for believing him to be mentally deranged and the Governor had therefore, with Mr Lyttelton's approval, asked the Sultan to come to Aden for medical treatment and had informed him that an independent inquiry would be held by the Judge of the colony. When on the following day the Sultan had fled to the Yemen, the town of Lahej was occupied on the Governor's orders by the Aden Protectorate levies without incident. The political officer with the levies had ensured the continuation of the administration and the maintenance of law and order pending the election of a council of regency by the Sultanate's traditional electoral body. It was hoped to withdraw the levies not later than 29 or 30 April. The inquiry by the colony Judge was held on 25 April and the Judge's report was awaited.

The statement ended as follows: 'This action was taken by the Governor . . . as a necessary act of policy. The situation was exceptional and our obligation as the protecting Power to the people of Lahej was considered to override any agreement with the ruler concerning his personal rule.'

29 Apr.—Bamangwato Tribe Deputation. Lord Salisbury, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, said he had seen the Bamangwato deputation twice. On the first occasion it had claimed to represent the tribe and had said that the tribe as a whole desired the appointment of Seretse Khama as chief and were prepared to accept his wife. They asked him to reconsider the Government's decision to exclude Seretse Khama from the chieftainship and said that if the decision could not be altered they would welcome a further statement on the Government's reasons for the decision.

Lord Salisbury said that at the second interview he had told the deputation that the decision was final and the reasons for it had been set

Great Britain (*continued*)

out in the White Paper and in the various parliamentary statements and debates. He pointed out that their claim to represent the tribe had not been unchallenged, that opinion in the tribe was subject to change, that at the first *kgotla* in November 1948 a large majority of the tribe had been unwilling to accept Seretse Khama's marriage, and that the Government had a responsibility to consider the ultimate interests of the tribe and Protectorate. He had emphasized the Government's determination to secure settled conditions in the reserve and to appoint a new chief acceptable to both tribe and the Government, and he urged them to abide loyally by the Government's decision.

The Bamangwato deputation told the press that they were very dissatisfied with the Government's decision and were convinced they were being treated unfairly.

Central African Federation. In a debate in the Commons, Mr Lyttelton, Secretary of State for the Colonies, after deploring the initiation of the debate while the conference was still in progress, replied to criticisms from Mr Griffiths, former Labour Colonial Secretary. He said the conference aimed at producing a draft document which would not be binding save in the sense that, once agreed, they would not expect anyone to withdraw from it unilaterally, but that did not preclude discussion or second thoughts. He referred to a letter published the same day in *The Times* in which the African delegations from two of the northern territories had stated their objections in principle to federation and their lack of faith in possible safeguards for African interests. He said that to reject safeguards without knowing what they would be was tantamount to expressing disbelief in the protection and word of the Government under the existing regime and their utter disbelief in it under federation. A referendum in Southern Rhodesia would only be held on a definite scheme and not until after the next conference which he thought could not be held as early as July. A Minister would go out to Central Africa before it was held. Mr Lyttelton reaffirmed that Government in partnership between Europeans and Africans was the only solution.

The Times published a letter from all except two of the members of the African delegations invited to the conference on Central African federation in which they set out their objections in principle to federation. These were based on the fear that the native policy of Southern Rhodesia, which they declared approximated to that of the Union of South Africa, would be extended to Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia. They declared: 'We have no faith in professed safeguards for African interests.'

30 Apr.—Egypt. It was announced that the London talks had ended and that Sir Ralph Stevenson would resume talks with the Egyptian Government.

British grant to Australian sugar industry (*see Australia*).

Colombo Plan. The first annual report of the Colombo Plan (Cmd. 8529) was published.

Germany: Labour Party Statement. The executive of the Labour

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Party issued a statement advocating a four-Power conference on free elections throughout Germany and declaring that fresh elections should be held in western Germany before any commitment was undertaken for a German contribution to western defence.

GREECE. 22 Apr.—On the order of the Supreme Military Commander of Attica, the publisher and head printer of the Athens opposition newspaper, *Embros*, were arrested for publishing the contents of a secret report addressed by the intelligence branch of the General Staff to all army corps commanders. The document revealed that the outlawed Communist Party was being reorganized and was attempting to infiltrate army units. It advised commanders to warn political quarters that the Government's pacification programme directly benefited the Communist Party.

Mr Venizelos, acting Prime Minister, said those responsible for the publication would be prosecuted under the espionage law for 'endangering national security'. He disclosed that the Government and military leaders had for long been aware of seditious Communist moves in the armed forces, and said that military intelligence had neutralized in the past eight months five attempts by the Communist organization, Kossa, to stir up revolts in army units. He suggested that the Opposition's attack on the unity and efficiency of the armed forces was motivated by purely partisan interests.

24 Apr.—Great Britain. At a ceremony to mark the withdrawal (on 30 April) of the British Military Mission after seven years' service in Greece, King Paul presented to the British Army an ancient Greek shield as a token of Anglo-Greek friendship.

26 Apr.—Turkey. The Turkish Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, accompanied by the Chief of Staff of Turkish land forces and other military officials, arrived in Athens for discussions with the Greek Government.

INDIA. 26 Apr.—Indian protest *re* Security Council decision not to hear Tunisian dispute (*see United Nations*).

28 Apr.—Japan. The state of war with Japan was ended by an exchange of Notes between the two countries. The Government also announced its intention of concluding an early separate peace treaty.

30 Apr.—Ceylon. The Government referred in a Note to the Ceylon Government to a speech by the Home Minister of Ceylon, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, in which he had stated that he could not be responsible for the safety of the Indian community because his entire police force was engaged in coping with the Satyagraha (passive resistance) movement launched by the Ceylon Indian Congress (in protest against the exclusion of the majority of the Indian community from the electoral roll). The Indian Note pointed out that the statement might be interpreted as a threat to the Indian community and a direct encouragement to Sinhalese extremists to resort to violence against Indians. It urged the Ceylon Government to assure the Indian community that they would be given all possible protection.

INDO-CHINA. 19 Apr.—French pledge to continue the struggle (see *France*).

21 Apr.—M. Letourneau, French High Commissioner and Minister for the Associated States, arrived in Saigon from France.

22 Apr.—French Union forces claimed an important success in a clearing operation east of Hanoi against the 98th Viet-Minh Regiment which was reported to have been almost completely destroyed as a fighting force. Its colonel and political commissar had been killed, 690 prisoners captured, and over 1,000 left dead on the battlefield.

26 Apr.—Viet-Minh saboteurs blew up two petrol storage tanks belonging to the Shell Company at Bien-Hoa, fifteen miles north-east of Saigon. More than 114,000 gallons of petrol were said to have been destroyed.

27 Apr.—Gen. Salan, French C.-in-C., issued an order of the day giving enemy losses for the preceding six weeks. These were said to be 4,100 killed and 4,050 captured.

INDONESIA. 28 Apr.—The Army announced that in a clash with an armed gang in central Java during the week-end, twenty-four members of the gang, twenty soldiers, and three policemen had been killed.

IRAQ. 20 Apr.—The Prime Minister left for London to join the Regent, Emir Abdul Illah, on a state visit to Spain.

23 Apr.—The construction was completed of the Iraq Petroleum Company's new 556-mile-long pipeline from Kirkuk to Banias (in Syria).

ISRAEL. 17 Apr.—The night-and-day curfew imposed on Nazareth on 13 April was altered to a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

24 Apr.—**Egypt.** It was announced in Tel Aviv that on 23 April an Israeli fishing-boat had been fired at by Egyptian coastal guns off Gaza. An Israeli patrol boat which was sent to the rescue was reported to have captured one of two Egyptian fishing boats found in Israeli territorial waters and to have arrested its occupants. The Israeli fishing boat had returned safely to port.

29 Apr.—**Independence Day.** In a broadcast marking the fourth anniversary of the end of the Palestinian war, Mr Ben Gurion, Prime Minister, said that as a result of the constant expansion of her army Israel had come to be regarded as one of the leading military Powers in the Middle East. In the past four years Israel's population had risen from 650,000 to 1,500,000. While not denying that there were still serious economic difficulties, he said there had been encouraging results of the new policy introduced in February. He announced that the Government had begun developing the Southern Negev desert.

ITALY. 19 Apr.—**West Germany.** A one-year trade agreement between Italy and Federal Germany, providing for a considerable expansion of trade, was signed in Milan.

JAPAN. 18 Apr.—**Subversive Activities Bill.** Workers, estimated at

a million, joined in a one-day strike in protest against the Government Bill against subversive activities.

The Attorney-General, replying in the Diet to Opposition criticism of the Bill, declared that unless it were enacted the country would be without laws to control subversive activity on the coming into force of the peace treaty.

23 Apr.—At the last meeting of the Allied Council, Gen. Kislenko (U.S.S.R.) uttered a long denunciation of the U.S.-controlled occupation of Japan and of the 'illegal separate peace treaty'. He declared that the decision to end the occupation and close the Council was unilateral and that the United States was turning Japan into a 'military bridge-head in preparation for another war in the Far East'.

28 Apr.—**Peace Treaty.** The Japanese Peace Treaty came into force and Japan regained her status as a sovereign and independent Power. (The following Powers had ratified the treaty: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Ceylon, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, United Kingdom, United States.)

Ending of state of war with India (*see India*).

Mr Yoshida issued a statement emphasizing Japan's firm adherence to an anti-Communist policy and her resolve to build up eventually her own defences in co-operation with the free nations. A White Paper denouncing Russian policy and Communist psychological warfare was also issued. It declared that Japan could not remain neutral and unarmed in the face of the Communist threat.

Exchange of U.S. and Japanese messages, and Soviet protest against dissolution of Far East Commission (*see United States*).

Signing of peace treaty with Nationalist China (*see Formosa*).

Amnesty. An amnesty granting pardons, reductions of sentences, or restoration of civil rights to 1,303,000 persons was promulgated.

About 2,000 left-wing students from Tokio University took part in an anti-American demonstration.

30 Apr.—**Foreign Minister.** Mr Okazaki, Minister without portfolio in charge of foreign affairs, was appointed Foreign Minister.

JORDAN. 30 Apr.—**Government Changes.** A Cabinet reshuffle was announced. As a result of the changes Suliman Bey Toukan remained as Defence Minister only and Said Pasha el Mufti as deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior.

KASHMIR. 25 Apr.—Sheikh Abdullah declared in a speech that the existence of Kashmir did not depend on Indian money, trade, or defence forces and he did not expect any strings to be attached to Indian aid. Threats and taunts would not intimidate him into servile submission. He repeated that only restricted accession to India in defence, external affairs, and communications had been agreed to by Indian leaders and that this had been endorsed by the Indian Parliament by inclusion in the Indian constitution. He again said that Kashmir would not back out of accession, but declared that India could do so if she wished.

KOREA. 19 Apr.—Germ Warfare. Evidence was published in Washington showing that the Communists had admitted, on 21 February in the Peking newspaper, *People's World* (i.e. two days before their allegations of germ warfare against the United Nations) that epidemics due to natural causes were rife in parts of China.

24 Apr.—The British Foreign Office issued a denial of Chinese allegations about U.N. methods in the examination of prisoners. It was emphasized that the screening process was scrupulously fair and that full publicity was given to Communist pledges that returning prisoners would not be victimized.

27 Apr.—Communist Build-up. The U.N. Command in Tokyo issued a statement on the enemy's strength and preparations which said that the Communists had built a 'Siegfried Line' across Korea since the beginning of the armistice talks. The positions followed the line of the existing front and were 'somewhat crude in construction' but improvements were being made daily. The statement added that enemy air, tank, and artillery power had increased and that the enemy's previous food and clothing difficulties had been overcome. Their air build-up had shown 'an intent to train as many pilots as possible while the opportunity exists'. Enemy army strength was estimated at well over 750,000 and air strength at 1,500 aircraft, more than half jets. Rocket launches had appeared but had not yet been effectively employed.

Air Losses. The Air Force reported that in the week ending 25 April eight M.I.G.s were destroyed in aerial combat, two probably destroyed, and seven damaged at a cost of one U.S. Sabre jet. Eleven allied bombers were lost in the week.

Prisoners of War. The U.S. Information Service gave the total of prisoners held by the United Nations as nearly 170,000 made up as follows: North Korean, 96,000; Chinese 20,699; South Koreans impressed, 16,000; South Korean civilian internees 37,000. It said that of these only 70,000 had expressed a wish to return to Communist territory.

28 Apr.—Allied Far East Command. Gen. Mark Clark was appointed Supreme Allied Commander, Far East in succession to Gen. Ridgway, who was appointed Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

The U.N. delegates submitted a new compromise solution to outstanding differences at a closed session of the full armistice delegations.

LIBYA. 17 Apr.—United Nations Aid. It was learned that Libya would receive \$1.5 m. of the \$20 m. allocated by the United Nations in 1952 for technical assistance to under-developed countries. Three agreements had been signed by the Prime Minister and the head of the U.N. mission in Libya providing for: (1) agricultural experts; (2) the help and services of the U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund; and (3) twelve experts in various branches, including public administration, taxation, foreign trade, and banking.

MALAYA. 19 Apr.—Statement on Malayan Communists based in Siam (see Siam).

26 Apr.—Long Pin, the commander of the 1st Regiment of the 'Malayan Races Liberation Army' was killed with three of his body-guard by British troops.

In a speech to the Chamber of Commerce at Kuala Lumpur, Gen. Templer, the High Commissioner, called for a crusade against racial discrimination and urged the British community to take an active part in the life of the local Malayan community.

30 Apr.—The Federation Government announced an increased scale of rewards, amounting to about three times the previous sums offered, for the killing or capture of leading Malayan Communists. The highest reward offered was \$250,000 for Chin Peng, Secretary-General of the Central Executive Council of the Malayan Communist Party, if brought alive by the claimant or on the claimant's information.

NETHERLANDS. 23 Apr.—U.S. decision to continue aid despite Netherlands shipment to Poland (*see United States*).

28 Apr.—Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard arrived back from their visit to the United States and Canada.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 19 Apr.—Lord Ismay, the new Secretary-General of N.A.T.O., announced the appointment of Dr Van Vredenburg of the Netherlands as Deputy Secretary-General of N.A.T.O.

20 Apr.—Gen. Norstad, C.-in-C., Allied Air Forces, Central Europe, announced the formation of two Allied Tactical Air Forces to defend the west European approaches and give support to ground forces. In the northern sector, the Second Allied Tactical Air Force under the command of Air Marshal Foster, R.A.F., would consist of British, Netherlands, and Belgian component formations; and in the central sector the Fourth Allied Tactical Air Force under Gen. Strother (United States) would consist of U.S., French, and Canadian units.

28 Apr.—**Gen. Ridgway's Appointment.** Having been asked by the North Atlantic Council to nominate a successor to Gen. Eisenhower, President Truman nominated Gen. Ridgway, Supreme Allied Commander, Far East, and the Council thereupon appointed him Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

It was announced that, at Gen. Ridgway's request, Gen. Gruenther would continue as Chief of Staff.

NORWAY. 25 Apr.—**Defence.** The Government published a defence plan for 1952-4 costing £170 m. It provided, *inter alia*, for an extension in the summer of national service in the Navy from twelve to eighteen months; for airfield development at a cost of £12,950,000; and for an Army mobilization strength of thirteen brigades.

PERSIA. 21 Apr.—Persian claim to sovereignty over Bahrein (*see Great Britain*).

Mr Bunting, *The Times* correspondent, left Persia, having been expelled by the Government without any reason being given.

Persia (continued)

24 Apr.—The Government announced that martial law in Teheran, due to end on 1 May, would be extended for two months.

25 Apr.—Publication of the British memorial to the International Court, the Persian objections to the Court's competence, and the British reply (see *United Nations, International Court of Justice*).

U.S. announcement on resumption of aid, and Persian pledge to support U.N. principles and defend Persian independence (see *United States*).

27 Apr.—The Majlis was opened by the Shah who said in his speech that special attention should be paid to the well-being and development of the poorer classes and that this should be done by the fullest use of Persian natural resources, including oil.

PORTUGAL. 26 Apr.—N.A.T.O. Field-Marshal Montgomery arrived in Lisbon for a visit of inspection of N.A.T.O. defences.

SIAM. 19 Apr.—The British Vice-Consul in Singora, Siam, said in a broadcast that about 200 Malayan Communist terrorists were based in southern Siam, mostly near the Perlis border, and that they and arms traffickers infiltrated into Malaya along the old smugglers' tracks.

SOUTH AFRICA. 17 Apr.—**Constitutional Crisis.** During the debate in the House on the constitutional crisis, Mr Louw, Minister of Economic Affairs, charged the Leader of the Opposition with indulging in economic sabotage of the country by saying that the constitutional crisis would scare away capital.

18 Apr.—Intervening in the debate, Dr Malan, Prime Minister, announced that a general election would be held ten or eleven months after the end of the session (about August 1953) and that people would then be able to decide between Government and Opposition. He reaffirmed that the Government stood by the 1937 judgement of the Appeal Court which held that the entrenched clauses were no longer valid, and he warned the Opposition against alliance with the Torch Commando which he said was setting an example of law-breaking to natives and Indians.

21 Apr.—The Opposition amendment was defeated in the House by 78 votes to 61. Replying to the debate, Mr Havenga, Finance Minister, said that he stood by his colleagues in their endeavour to establish the supremacy of Parliament as the sovereign law-making body.

Dealing with economic matters in the debate, Mr Havenga said the Budget was unshakably sound. The rest of the sterling area could be sure that South Africa would solve her own problems without allowing conditions to develop which would burden the sterling area as a whole. The Government would also avoid anything likely to discourage investment in the Orange Free State gold field.

22 Apr.—Dr Dönges, Minister of the Interior, asked leave in the Assembly to introduce a Bill to establish a High Court of Parliament whose jurisdiction would be limited to constitutional issues where the

validity of an Act of Parliament was threatened. The court would consist of members of the Senate and of the House of Assembly. He said that such a court was necessitated by two recent events: (1) the abolition of the right of appeal to the Privy Council (he rejected the restoration of such a right because the Privy Council was an overseas court), and (2) the invalidation by the South African Appeal Court of the Separate Representation of Voters Act. He said that Parliament could not allow a position to continue in which appointed courts could test legislation and tell Parliament what procedure it must use, and he declared that the establishment of the proposed court would place final decision in such matters where it belonged—with the democratically-elected representatives of the sovereign people.

Mr Strauss, leader of the Opposition, said the Appeal Court had not prescribed to Parliament what it could or could not do, but had pronounced the entrenched clauses of the South Africa Act still valid. It was the South Africa Act which prescribed the procedure. Parliament could not set aside the entrenched clauses by a bare majority. He opposed the establishment of a High Court of Parliament saying that it would not be a judicial court but a political court—a bogus court established not to express the will of the people but that of the Nationalist Party caucus. He moved an amendment, which was supported by the leader of the Labour Party and by the Natives' representative, refusing leave for the introduction of the Bill on the ground that it was calculated to undermine the independence of the constitution.

Mr Viljoen, Minister of Education, and Mr Bremer, Minister of Health, denied the charges of bad faith and autocracy and maintained that the Bill would serve the people and democracy.

23 Apr.—The text of the Government's Bill to establish a High Court of Parliament was published. The Bill provided for a court consisting of all members of the House of Assembly and the Senate, sitting as one body and giving its judgement by majority vote. One of its members would be appointed president by the Governor-General, and the president would appoint a judicial committee of ten members to make recommendations. The Bill provided that any judgment or order of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court which declared invalid any provision of any Act of Parliament enacted after the Statute of Westminster in December 1931 should be subject to review by the High Court of Parliament whose decision would be binding.

The House voted by 70 votes to 57 to give the Bill a first reading. An Opposition amendment to defer the second reading from 30 April to 7 May to give more time to study the Bill was defeated by 63 to 47.

During the debate, Mr Sullivan, an Opposition member from Natal, said that Natal had alone accepted by referendum the South African constitution as the basis for the South African comity: to them it was a legal and a moral contract and they believed it to be threatened with destruction by the proposed measure. Without the entrenchment of their language right and the establishment of their Provincial Government, Natal would never have entered the Union. He asked the Prime Minister to go to the country on the issue.

South Africa (continued)

24 Apr.—**United Nations and South-West Africa.** Replying to criticisms by Mr Strauss in the House on the Government's policy in regard to the United Nations and S.W. Africa, Dr Malan denied that he wished to see the United Nations fail but admitted that he would not weep if it disappeared and said he had always insisted that a better organization should replace it. He declared that the United Nations seemed to be set on imposing unrealistic ideological shackles on South Africa and, after the last South African report on South-West Africa, had wanted native reserves to be abolished. Dr Malan said that if this were carried out, in a few years the Natives would be bought out and be irretrievably landless and he refused to send reports to be used for such propaganda. He said that the 'world opinion' which Dr Strauss was continually invoking was that of the non-European *bloc* which had a majority in the United Nations and which wanted to abolish the colour-bar everywhere and, with Russian support, to gain control of South-West Africa as a jumping-off place in their campaign against the Union. Dr Malan insisted that the Smuts policy of conciliation advocated by Mr Strauss was useless, and he accused the United Party and its press of providing material for non-European United Nations attacks on South Africa.

25 Apr.—The United Party, the Labour Party, and the Torch Commando held a demonstration in Cape Town to launch the united front campaign against the Government's Bill to set up a High Court of Parliament.

27 Apr.—At a meeting of the national executive of the African National Congress in Bloemfontein, the president, Dr Moroka, appealed for 10,000 volunteers for a campaign of defiance against 'unjust laws'.

30 Apr.—Mr Strauss asked the Speaker for a ruling as to whether the High Court of Parliament Bill did not, in the terms of the South Africa Act, require to be passed by a joint sitting of both Houses, and therefore whether the motion that the Bill be read a second time should not be disallowed.

SPAIN. 22 Apr.—Ambassador to the United States on Spain's willingness to join N.A.T.O. (*see United States*).

24 Apr.—Spanish mission in Egypt (*see Egypt*).

26 Apr.—Spanish-Egyptian cultural treaty (*see Egypt*).

29 Apr.—Senor Artajo and his mission returned to Madrid from his tour of Arab countries in the Near East.

Spanish Morocco. The Government announced that the Cortes had approved a £7,500,000 plan for developing agriculture, public works, roads, and education in Spanish Morocco.

SUDAN. 19 Apr.—Sir James Robertson, the Civil Secretary, assured the Legislative Assembly that in the forthcoming London talks he and Sir Robert Howe, the Governor-General, would do their best to represent the views of the Sudanese as a whole and of those in the Assembly

in particular. He said there was no indication that Britain had any intention of violating recent pledges on the Sudan.

21 Apr.—London talks on Anglo-Egyptian negotiations (*see Great Britain*).

22 Apr.—The Umma Party sent a telegram to Mr Eden expressing confidence in British pledges and determination to resist Egypt's attempts to impose her crown on the Sudan.

23 Apr.—The Legislative Assembly approved the draft self-governing constitution. Several amendments were agreed to, of which the most important declared that the Sudanese should decide freely for themselves the time when, and the method by which, the right to self-determination would be exercised.

28 Apr.—A general strike called by the Sudan Workers' Federation in protest against the arrest of their president and vice-president was ignored by all but a few unions. The police arrested eleven members of the Federation's committee and searched its offices.

29 Apr.—The Sudan Workers' Federation called off the general strike.

TUNISIA. 28 Apr.—The Tunisian controller of food supplies for Sousse was killed in Sousse by machine-gun fire, and another Tunisian with him was seriously injured. A Tunisian was killed by a bomb in the Arab quarter of Tunis.

29 Apr.—Dock workers in Tunisian ports went on strike for an hour in protest against the banning by the French authorities of political demonstrations on May Day.

TURKEY. 25 Apr.—**Greece.** The Prime Minister and Foreign Minister left by sea for a six-day visit to Greece to strengthen relations between the two countries.

UNITED NATIONS

26 Apr.—**Tunisia.** On the orders of Mr Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Dayal, Indian delegate to the United Nations, sent a letter to the Asian-Arab bloc, to the Latin-American countries, and to the colonial Powers in the North Atlantic Alliance protesting against the Security Council's decision not to hear the case between Tunis and France. He declared that the decision marked a trend, which threatened to become a habit, of denying the charter right of discussion whenever big Powers' interests were involved.

Disarmament Commission

24 Apr.—The U.S. delegate submitted the following six basic principles on disarmament:

1. The goal of disarmament is not to regulate but to prevent war, by relaxing fears created by armaments, and by making war inherently impossible, as it is constitutionally impossible under the Charter, as a means of settling disputes between nations.

2. To achieve this goal, all States must co-operate to establish an open and substantially disarmed world in which armed forces and

United Nations (continued)

armaments will be so reduced that no State will be able to start a war, and in which no State will be in a position to prepare for war without the knowledge of other States.

3. To reach and keep this goal, international agreements must be entered into by which all States would reduce their armed forces to levels, and restrict their armaments to types and quantities necessary for, (a) the maintenance of internal security; (b) fulfilment of obligations of States to maintain peace and security in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

4. Such agreements must ensure both: (a) the progressive reduction of armed forces and permitted armaments to fixed maximum levels, radically below present levels and balanced during reduction, thereby preventing any disequilibrium of power dangerous to peace; (b) the elimination of all instruments adaptable to mass destruction.

5. Such agreements must provide effective safeguards to ensure that all phases of the disarmament programme are carried out. In particular, elimination of atomic weapons must be accomplished by international control of atomic energy to ensure its use for peaceful purposes only.

6. Such agreements must provide an effective system of progressive and continuing disclosure and verification of all armed forces and armaments, including atomic, to achieve the open world in which alone there can be effective disarmament.

Korea. Mr Malik accused Mr Trygve Lie and the U.N. Secretariat of failing to circulate two documents on bacteriological warfare in Korea sent by the Peking and North Korean Foreign Ministers in reply to telegrams from Mr Lie offering the assistance of the World Health Organization in controlling the reported epidemics in North Korea.

Economic Commission for Europe

24 Apr.—Steel. The Commission issued a report on steel production which examined developments and trends affecting the European steel industry during and after the rearmament period and gave the production figures for European countries, the U.S.A., Canada, Japan, and the Soviet Union in 1950-1 and the estimated figures for 1953.

International Court of Justice

25 Apr.—Persian Oil Dispute. The Court published the British Government's memorial of its case in the dispute and also the Persian objections to the Court's competence in the case and the British reply to those objections.

The British memorial, which was dated 10 October 1951, submitted that the Persian Government had acted illegally towards the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, that it was internationally responsible for those illegal actions, and that the Court should declare the Persian Government bound to restore the A.I.O.C. to its former position; to observe the convention of 1933; and to compensate the Company for the loss suffered, or alternatively to be bound by the Court to pay compensation in a prescribed manner. It declared that the 1933 convention was in

effect an international agreement binding on the Persian Government and that there was no question of its validity in Persian law as it had been ratified by the Persian Parliament. The Convention stipulated that it could not be annulled or altered by the Persian Parliament and that any disputes should be referred to a tribunal appointed by the International Court. The memorial pointed out that after the 1933 convention the Company had invested enormous capital sums in developing oil production and that Persia without being involved in any of the risks of the enterprise had derived from it a constantly increasing income and had obtained for her workers in the industry conditions far superior to those in other parts of the country. It stated that the Company had at all times shown itself willing to modify the terms of the concession in order to give the Persian Government higher payment for increased production, but, under the influence of violent nationalist feeling, the Persian Government had refused to consider any reasonable accommodation.

The memorial then made the following submissions: (1) While a State is entitled to nationalize and expropriate foreign property in its territory, it can do so only within the framework of international law. (2) The termination of a foreign concession is unlawful if the State has contracted not to do so unilaterally. (3) If not unlawful on other grounds, expropriation becomes unlawful if it is directed primarily against foreigners, and cannot be shown to be in the vital public interest. (4) Even if expropriation is not unlawful on other grounds, it becomes so unless 'adequate, prompt, and effective compensation' is paid. (5) Where nationalization is unlawful, restitution of concessionary rights should be made or pecuniary compensation paid. (6) When a contract provides for arbitration the amount of compensation must be decided by the arbitration court provided for in the contract. (7) Confiscation of a concession contrary to international law 'engages directly the international responsibility of the State' if no recourse to the agreed, or local, courts is admitted.

In the Persian counter-memorial denying the Court's competence in the case, the Persian Government recalled that, in a Persian declaration of 2 October 1930 accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court, it reserved the right 'to require that proceedings in the Court be suspended in respect of any dispute which had been submitted to the Council of the League of Nations', and it therefore formally declared that it considered the proceedings before the Court suspended as from the time when the British Government had seized the Security Council. It declared that the nationalization of a key industry was an unchallenged right of any State and an essential element of the right of self-determination, involving an inherent right, much deeper than sovereignty, which was recognized by international practice and was comparable to the right of self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the U.N. Charter. It contended that the dispute fell exclusively within the domestic jurisprudence of Persia, that it was not covered by the Statute of the Court itself, and that Article 2 of the U.N. Charter prohibited intervention by the United Nations in a member's internal affairs. It stated also that the

United Nations (continued)

Persian Government had never left its intention to compensate the Company in doubt.

The British reply maintained that the Court was competent to adjudicate under Article 36 of the Statute according to which all parties to the Statute recognized the Court's jurisdiction in disputes concerning the interpretation of a treaty, any question of international law, and breaches of international obligations. It denied that the dispute fell within the exception of domestic jurisprudence, and declared the Persian interpretation of the Persian declaration of 1930 to be incorrect.

Security Council

25 Apr.—Kashmir. The Council published a progress report of Dr Graham, the U.N. mediator, in which he said that although agreement on demilitarization was still lacking, progress had been achieved through the individual decisions of both parties, and he therefore intended beginning consultation with the plebiscite administrator-designate on their common problems.

He reported that India had decided to withdraw unconditionally one division, with supporting armour, estimated to total 18,000 men, and to withdraw to distances varying from seventy to 450 miles from the border forces that were moved up towards the western Indo-Pakistan border in the summer of 1951. The Pakistan Government had indicated that most of the Pakistan forces that had been moved up to the border region had returned to peace-time stations.

India maintained her insistence on keeping 21,000 regular Army forces and 6,000 State militia on its side of the cease-fire line, while agreeing to let Pakistan keep on its side only 4,000 Azad Kashmiris, but had indicated willingness to consult about a further reduction at the end of the demilitarization period. Pakistan had agreed that the U.N. demilitarization programme should be completed by 15 July, that it should embrace all armed forces in Jammu and Kashmir, and that at the end of the demilitarization period there should remain on each side of the cease-fire line the lowest possible number of armed forces in proportion to the numbers which existed there on 1 January 1949.

Dr Graham proposed that he should continue negotiations on remaining differences and that by 15 July (the date originally fixed for the conclusion of demilitarization) India and Pakistan should undertake further to reduce their forces.

UNITED STATES. 18 Apr.—Defence Expenditure. In a speech to ex-servicemen in Washington, President Truman strongly criticized the recent vote in the House to cut defence expenditure in the next fiscal year by between \$4,000 m. to \$5,000 m. He said the cuts were being advocated from political motives with an eye to the presidential elections and not to save the national economy which had never been stronger. He declared that if the cuts stayed they would upset the schedule of the entire U.S. defence programme and be terribly dangerous, and he called on the Senate to restore the cuts.

British memorandum on U.S. trade policy (*see Great Britain*).

19 Apr.—Germany and Russia. Speaking to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Mr Acheson, Secretary of State, referred to the Soviet proposal for a four-Power conference on German unity and a German peace treaty, and said that in the light of seven years' fruitless negotiations with Russia to try and reach agreement on an honest basis for German union, it was natural to want evidence of a shift in the Soviet position. He said the three main principles of Soviet policy in regard to Germany, which had never changed, were (1) no relaxation of control over east Germany; (2) every effort to be made to infiltrate into west Germany; (3) every major exercise of power by an all-German Government to be subject to a Soviet veto. Mr Acheson denied the Soviet contention that there was a contradiction between the unification of western Europe and the unification of Germany and said that Germany could be united and free as a member of the European community whereas a united Germany cut off from defence with, and by, the west would not be free. He described the recent Moscow economic conference as a Soviet move to secure strategic materials by linking such things as machinery and herrings, ships and lemons, ball bearings and textiles in a 'cunning mixture', and he said the western security controls over trade with east Europe would continue to be necessary so long as Russia maintained a huge military machine.

21 Apr.—Steel Dispute. After a debate in which the President was strongly criticized for having ordered the seizure of the steel mills by the Government, the Senate voted by 44 votes to 31 in favour of a Republican amendment partially limiting the use of federal funds for the operation of the mills. Shortly before the debate the White House published a letter sent by President Truman to the Senate President expressing his readiness to co-operate in developing any legislative Congress proposals and asking Congress to act 'in a manner that measures to its responsibilities' in the light of the critical world situation. He said he had ordered the temporary occupation of the steel mills with the utmost reluctance as he regarded their continued operation as imperative for national security.

Korea. Gen. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, declared at Moberley, Missouri, that the U.N. forces in Korea were much stronger than they were when the truce negotiations started nine months earlier, and that the whole military position was many times better than it had been a year earlier. He said one of the great dangers was that both the United States and the enemy should under-estimate U.S. strength.

22 Apr.—Steel Dispute. A Republican amendment in the Senate, denying the President the right to use any Government funds for the operation of the steel mills, failed to secure a two-thirds majority (the vote being 47 to 29 in favour) and was therefore not brought to a final vote.

In the House of Representatives, Mr Hale, Republican, moved a resolution to start impeachment proceedings against President Truman for ordering the seizure of the steel mills by the Government. The resolution was referred to the Judicial Committee. He also moved a resolution declaring the President's action to be a violation of the con-

United States (continued)

stitution and recommending that the steel mills be returned to private operation.

Atom Bomb Test. An atom bomb, dropped from an aircraft at 30,000 ft, was exploded in the Nevada desert. The bomb was reported to have been more powerful than the Nagasaki, Hiroshima, or Bikini bombs. About 1,500 troops watched the explosion from foxholes at a distance of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Spain. Don José de Lequerica, Spanish Ambassador to the United States, said in Indianapolis that Spain was willing to join N.A.T.O. and could offer an army of two million men to fight communism.

23 Apr.—Steel Dispute. Mr Putnam, the economic stabilizer, ordered the price ceilings for steel to be raised by nearly \$3 a ton in accordance with the Capeheart amendment to the Defence Production Act. (The amount was much less than the industry had demanded in order to meet the proposed wage increases.)

Netherlands. Exercising his discretionary powers under the Battle Act, President Truman notified the six Congressional committees concerned that U.S. aid would be continued to the Netherlands although it had shipped strategic materials to Poland. He explained that the shipment (of oil-drilling equipment) was the final one in a contract entered into in 1949, and that in discussions which had taken place between the U.S. and the Netherlands Governments before shipment it had been considered that it would make no significant contribution to the eastern military potential.

24 Apr.—President Truman. Discussing presidential powers in times of emergency, President Truman declared at a press conference that he had sent an ultimatum to Mr Stalin in 1946 to withdraw Soviet forces from Persia by a certain date on threat of U.S. military action. Two hours later the White House issued a statement saying that no ultimatum had been sent.

At his press conference President Truman defended himself against the criticisms he had incurred in ordering the Government to operate the steel industry. He maintained that 'all out' steel production was essential for the Korean campaign, and he declared that peace had been his one aim since he had become President.

25 Apr.—The press was widely critical of the President for the confusion of the previous day about the ultimatum to Russia.

Persia. The State Department announced that, following an exchange of Notes in Tehran on 24 April between the Persian Prime Minister and the U.S. Ambassador, it had been decided to resume U.S. military aid to Persia (suspended on 8 January). In the Persian Note, Dr Moussadek said that Persia supported the principles of the U.N. Charter 'to the extent that its economic and general resources permit' and was strengthening its defences and would resist any attack against itself.

Immigration. The House voted by 206 to 68 to revise the immigration laws and remove all racial barriers to U.S. citizenship. The main effect of the Bill was to make all Asian races eligible for naturalization, Japanese, Indonesians, Burmese, Siamese, and some Pacific islanders

being excluded under the existing law. It fixed at 154,657 the total of immigrants to be admitted each year.

28 Apr.—N.A.T.O. Appointment of Gen. Ridgway as Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (see *North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

Far East Command. President Truman appointed Gen. Mark Clark, Commander of U.S. Army Field Forces, to succeed Gen. Ridgway as Supreme Allied Commander, Far East.

Japan. At a ceremony to mark the coming into force of the Japanese peace treaty, Mr. Acheson, Secretary of State, read a message from President Truman expressing confidence that Japan was alive to the Communist threat and pledging U.S. co-operation with Japan. The Japanese Ambassador replied with a message from Mr. Yoshida, Japanese Prime Minister, which declared that Japan was conscious of the need to contribute to a common world effort and to the welfare of humanity.

U.S.S.R. and Japan. Mr. Panyushkin, the Soviet Ambassador and Soviet representative on the Far East Commission until its dissolution, went to Mr. Hamilton, who had been U.S. representative on the Commission, a letter claiming that the dissolution of the Commission was illegal and declaring that its illegality was obvious because of its 'connection with the illegal separate peace treaty with Japan' concluded in violation of international agreements. He maintained that the status of Japan had not in fact been changed since it remained an occupied country, and he attributed full responsibility for the situation to the United States.

Foreign Aid. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted by 69 votes to 3 to reduce the \$7,900 m. foreign aid programme by \$1,000 m.

29 Apr.—Naval Commands. It was announced that Admiral Wright, deputy C.-in-C. of U.S. naval forces in the Atlantic under Admiral Carney, would take over the duties of C.-in-C., U.S. naval forces in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

International Materials Conference. The first annual report was published in Washington.

Steel Dispute. Judge Pine, a federal district judge, ruled in Washington that President Truman's order of 9 April for the seizure of the steel mills was illegal, and he issued a preliminary injunction restraining the Government from continuing its seizure. The Assistant Attorney-General filed with the Court of Appeals a request for an immediate stay of Judge Pine's injunction. The President of the Steelworkers' Union immediately ordered a national steel strike.

The Government imposed an embargo on shipments of steel to civilian warehouses and to foreign countries.

About 900,000 workers in petrol and oil refineries struck in support of a wage claim.

30 Apr.—The Court of Appeals by a majority decision restored the Government's seizure of the steel mills and gave the Administration until 4.30 p.m. on 2 May to file a petition for a review of the case with the Supreme Court. More than 600,000 steel workers were idle as a result of the strike.

United States (*continued*)

U.S. Tariffs. Commenting to the press on the British Note published in London on 18 April (*see p. 255*), Mr Acheson gave an assurance that the State Department would not resort lightly to the escape clause providing for the withdrawal of tariff concessions to prevent serious injury to a domestic industry.

Czechoslovakia. Visit of U.S. Ambassador to Mr Oatis (*see Czechoslovakia*).

U.S.S.R. 24 Apr.—Yugoslavia. Yugoslav demand for recall of diplomat (*see Yugoslavia*).

28 Apr.—Soviet protest at dissolution of Far East Commission (*see United States*).

29 Apr. et seq.—Soviet attack on French aircraft over Germany and western Powers' protests (*see Germany*).

30 Apr.—French protest re attack on aircraft (*see France*).

YEMEN. 21 Apr.—British occupation of Lahej (*see Aden Protectorate*).

22 Apr.—Yemeni statement on Lahej (*see Great Britain*).

YUGOSLAVIA. 21 Apr.—A Soviet emigré was sentenced in Belgrade to life imprisonment for espionage on behalf of Russia. Three others accused received sentences of eight, ten, and fourteen years' imprisonment respectively.

24 Apr.—U.S.S.R. The Foreign Ministry sent a Note to the Soviet Embassy demanding the recall of the First Secretary, Mr Karmanov, owing to alleged espionage activities, which, it was stated, had been proved in the Soviet spy trial held in Belgrade the preceding week.

26 Apr.—Four students were sentenced by their Belgrade district court to be shot for stealing food and industrial coupons and tickets entitling holders to food or textile parcels from an American charitable organization.

Seven Italians charged with espionage on behalf of the Cominform and the Soviet Union were sentenced at Fiume to prison terms with hard labour ranging from three to fourteen years.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| May | 13 | U.N. ECOSOC Council—14th session, New York. |
| " | 24-29 | Ceylon elections. |
| June | | Conference on Closer Association of West Indian territories. |
| " | 9 | U.N. Trusteeship Council—11th session, New York. |
| July | 1 | U.N. ECOSOC 14th session (session B), New York. |
| Sept. | 3 | World Power Conference, Chicago. |
| " | 16 | U.N. General Assembly—7th session. |
| " | 29 | British Labour Party Annual Conference, Morecambe, Lancs. |
| Oct. | 8 | British Conservative Party Annual Conference, Scarborough. |
| 1953 | | |
| June | 2 | Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. |